GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2181
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2000
CRITERIA FOR ALLOCATION OF NEWSPRINT
Y.G. MAHAJAN

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

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(a) whether circulation of the newspapers is the criteria for allocation of newsprint to the newspapers;

(b) if so, the names of the newspapers/groups which were allocated the maximum quantity of the newsprint in the year 1999;

(c) whether any organisation has been set up to authenticate the circulation of newspapers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

(SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a) As per the Newsprint Policy, which came into effect from 1.5.1995, the Registrar of Newspapers for India (RNI) no longer allocates newsprint to newspapers. It only issues Entitlement Certificates for indigenous newsprint and Eligibility Certificate for import of newsprint.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) & (d) The Registrar of Newspapers for India (RNI) was set up in the year 1956 undethe provisions of Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867. The verification/ authentication of circulation figures of the newspapers is one of the derivative functions entrusted to RNI, arising out of the Section 19 F of the said Act.